

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
LIEUTENANT LONNIE T.
VINESETT, JR.

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the outstanding career of Lieutenant Lonnie T. Vinesett, Jr., a dedicated community leader and honorable police officer.

Known as “Bubba” or “Terry” to his friends and family, Lt. Vinesett grew up in Indian Land. At the age of 14, he entered the Cadet Program at the Fort Mill Police Department. Shortly after, he became a security guard for Mercy Hospital. At the age of 21, Lt. Vinesett was hired by the Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office, where he began his police career. During his time with the Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office, he proudly served the same community he grew up in and loved deeply.

In 1999, Lt. Vinesett was hired by the York County Sheriff’s Office—his ultimate goal when he began his police career. During his tenure with the York County Sheriff’s Office, he experienced major milestones in his career and received numerous accolades and awards. For example, in 2007, Lt. Vinesett was working on Operation Rolling Thunder, a multi-jurisdiction operation based in Spartanburg, during which he made a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling from Atlanta to Washington, D.C. Lt. Vinesett found a secret compartment with 35 kilos of cocaine—the fourth largest interdiction drug stop in South Carolina state history.

Later in his career, Lt. Vinesett attended a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) training on combatting sex trafficking. Shortly after this training, he and then Master Deputy Phillip Aldridge were monitoring a known website for prostitution in the Charlotte area and observed a female that appeared to be underage. The two quickly began their operation and, in consultation with the FBI, investigated and charged the man involved. This was the first case of a successful prosecution and conviction for sex trafficking of a child in South Carolina state history. Lt. Vinesett and Master Deputy Phillip Aldridge received the Merit Award from Sheriff Tolson and a recommendation from then FBI Director James Comey.

Lt. Vinesett consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to these well-deserved accolades, he has dedicated countless hours to volunteering for community events and serving the school district in which he lives. Lt. Vinesett leads by example and has served as a guide for his children, family, and friends. He has never met a stranger, and his colleagues describe him as a “mentor and leader” to all. These stories are not outliers for a day in the life of Lt. Vinesett. His sense of service and selflessness is above reproach, leading him to earn the respect of law enforcement and citizens all over the state. His 25-year career is a testament to all the good our men and women in blue do for our communities. On behalf of the 5th District of South Carolina, I thank Lt. Vinesett for his continued sacrifice and service, and I congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

HUNTER CLARK

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the honor of presenting Hunter Clark with Congressional record paperwork and a challenge coin at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Hunter currently attends St. Augustine’s Prep in Richland, South Jersey and plans to attend American University in the fall. He achieved the Eagle Scout ranking as a part of Daretown Troop 60. For his Eagle Scout project, Hunter made some improvements to the beach at Camp Edge in Alloway, New Jersey. Camp Edge is part of Ranch Hope Ministries and provides care and outreach to troubled boys in the South Jersey community, as well as hosts a camp during the summer for kids of all ages. Hunter replaced some of the timber boundaries on the beach at Camp Edge. In addition, he added fishing pole hangers to the beach. Hunter should be proud of his service to South Jersey, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors at American University. God Bless Hunter, and God Bless our United States of America.

PROTECTING OUR KIDS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Protecting Our Kids Act, legislation in response to the gun violence that is affecting our communities, especially our children.

Mr. Speaker, our communities continue to be ripped apart by gun violence. In the high-profile recent mass shootings in Buffalo, NY and Uvalde, TX shootings, 31 lives were lost, and many more lives were tossed into turmoil because of the actions of armed individuals. It is too easy for guns to end up in the wrong hands.

According to the Washington Post, there have been 61 mass shootings in the month of May alone. It is important that we protect our children and our communities from gun violence.

What is more important than protecting our children? Which is why I again call on the Senate to act on the commonsense legislation the House has already passed to expand background checks (H.R. 8) and our bill to close the Charleston loophole to help keep guns out of the hands of prohibited buyers.

And this week, the House will consider legislation to put in place effective and commonsense protections that can help stop gun violence and contribute to safer communities.

This includes the bill on the floor today that would bar those under the age 21 from purchasing semiautomatic rifles. The legislation would also largely bar the sale, transfer, or possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, create new gun trafficking penalties including for straw purchasers who buy guns to pass on to someone who is pro-

hibited from having one, and would strengthen regulations against hard to trace “ghost guns” that are turning up at more and more crime scenes in our communities.

We must do everything in our power to protect our children. Our children must be able to feel safe in their classrooms. Or the movie theater. Or in their place of worship. Our seniors and others must feel safe to go to the grocery store.

This legislation is a start. But there is more that we can and must do, including increasing investments in our children and communities such as my bill to provide grants to community-based organizations to provide deescalation training to help keep conflicts from turning violence or escalating in the first place.

I urge support of this bill.

CONGRATULATING ALICE SOTELO
ON HER WIN AT THE IHSA
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP IN TRACK
AND FIELD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alice Sotelo, a junior from Sterling High School who won the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Triple Jump title.

Alice won the 2A State Title in the triple jump with a final clearance distance of 11.36 meters, setting a new school record. It was also her fourth time setting a new school record in the last month. As a former athlete, I commend her for her determination and attitude. Alice is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic. I am proud to see her represent Sterling so well throughout the state and the country with her talent and passion.

It is because of student leaders such as Alice that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Alice Sotelo on her Class 2A State Title in the triple jump.

MATT WESCOTT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the honor of attending Matt Wescott’s Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony. Matt attained his Eagle Scout ranking as a member of Boy Scout Troop 60 in Daretown, South Jersey. For his Eagle Scout project, Matt led some of his fellow scouts in building a Gaga Ball pit at Alloway School. Gaga Ball is a very popular game with elementary and middle schoolers in the South Jersey community. However, the game needs to be played inside of an octagonal shaped court, which is why Matt decided to build the school a court. This will provide years of entertainment for the Alloway community and students. Matt should be proud of his project, and it was my honor to have had the opportunity to recognize him for his service to the

South Jersey community. God Bless Matt, and God Bless our America.

HONORING PRESIDENT DR. WILLIAM R. HARVEY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. William R. Harvey for his 44 years of extraordinary service as the president of Hampton University, ending one of the longest serving tenures of any sitting college president in our country.

After obtaining degrees from Talladega College, Virginia State University and Harvard University, Dr. Harvey became the 12th president of Hampton University, then-named Hampton Institute, in 1978. A native of Alabama, he looked forward to returning to the south and working at an Historically Black College & University (HBCU) after receiving his doctorate at Harvard.

Over the course of his legendary tenure, he has ensured that Hampton University has remained focused on both the academic achievement and personal development of its students. He has remained responsive to the needs of his students, building one of the nation's most premiere institutes of higher education, and he has overseen the graduation of more than 38,000 students.

Under Dr. Harvey's presidency, Hampton has built over 30 new buildings, introduced over 90 new degree-granting programs, including 12 doctorates. The average SAT score for accepted students has risen by more than 300 points during his tenure. Thanks to Dr. Harvey's visionary leadership, Hampton University is home to the world's largest free-standing proton beam cancer treatment institute. It also became the first HBCU to lead a NASA mission, launching weather and atmospheric research satellites into space. The university's endowment, which stood at \$29 million when he became president, has grown exponentially under his tenure and now exceeds \$400 million, securing a bright future for the university for generations to come.

Most recently, Dr. Harvey successfully guided Hampton University through the COVID-19 pandemic by following the science. Also leading by example, Dr. Harvey recently opened the doors of Hampton for the upcoming summer semester to refugees displaced by the Russian War in Ukraine.

Aside from his work at Hampton University, Dr. Harvey has served on numerous boards, including the National Geographic Society, National Merit Scholarship Corporation, and National Collegiate Athletic Association. He is also the sole owner of a plant that bottles Pepsi products in Houghton, Michigan. Dr. Harvey has been the recipient of many accolades and awards over the years, including the Daily Press Citizen of the Year and the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities Humanitarian Award.

Madam Speaker, as the Hampton University community gathers this weekend to celebrate a truly remarkable leader, I want to congratulate Dr. Harvey on 44 years of legendary serv-

ice to Hampton University, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation. I also want to thank Norma Harvey, his wife and partner for over 50 years, for her countless contributions, and their three children—Kelly Renee, William Christopher, and Leslie Denise—and five grandchildren, Taylor, Gabrielle Lauren, Victoria, and Chloe. I thank Dr. Harvey for his decades of service and extend congratulations on a well-deserved retirement.

STOP PRICE GOUGING THE MILITARY ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Stop Price Gouging The Military Act." I thank U.S. Senator ELIZABETH WARREN (D-MA) for sponsoring the companion legislation in the United States Senate.

Our "Stop Price Gouging The Military Act" would prevent defense contractors from overcharging the Department of Defense on equipment parts, closing loopholes in regulations that affect taxpayers, American service members, and businesses that fairly support military readiness. As chair of the Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, I know how much it costs to keep our military ready and this bill would ensure that prices for equipment parts are fair and defense contractors are rewarded for quality performance.

The Truthful Cost or Pricing Data Act requires contractors to provide accurate cost and pricing data to the government. However, current broad definitions for "commercial items" prevent military contracting officers from accurately assessing fair prices. While prices for these "commercial items" should already be reasonable because of assumed competition in the commercial market, these parts are often only sold to the Department of Defense or are drastically changed from their original commercial counterpart. Some defense contractors can then overcharge the Defense Department because there are no market checks on the price, and they are not required to provide accurate data to military contracting officials.

The Defense Department also pays companies before work is completed, and money is rarely recouped if the contractor is behind schedule or work quality is poor. With this model, there is no way to incentivize performance.

This legislation would strengthen competition requirements by amending government acquisition laws to only waive requirements to provide cost or pricing information when there is price competition. It would also restore market dynamics to the commercial item definition by closing loopholes for when a good or service has been modified from what is sold on a commercial market, create a pilot program to tie payments to performance, and require annual disclosure of changes in costs of goods sold, gross margins, and pricing strategies.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to cosponsor my "Stop Price Gouging The Military Act" and support our service members, provide accountability to the taxpayer, and reward quality business that support military readiness. The legislation I introduce today would ensure just that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast a vote during last night's vote series. I would have voted to retain Title III, which is consistent with my voting for the final passage of H.R. 7910. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 239.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I was not present in the House Chamber for the vote on Retaining Title II of H.R. 7910, Roll Call vote 238. Had I been present, I would have voted No on this measure.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CHRISTOPHER OAKS AND THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOOD MORNINGS WITH CHRIS OAKS

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2022

Mr. LATTI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding individual, Christopher Oaks, from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District who has served his region through his radio program, Good Mornings with Chris Oaks. Chris has focused his career in radio on keeping his community informed and up to date on a range of issues. Whether it is news, sports, or weather, Chris is on the air providing the listeners with the information to start their day. Chris has always been an influential voice on the air in Ohio. In his early career, he hosted radio shows in Bellefontaine, Lima, Cincinnati, and mornings and afternoons at WFIN's sister-station WKXA.

Chris joined WFIN in June of 2002. His program, Good Mornings with Chris Oaks, quickly gained a dedicated following every weekday morning. Chris provides in-depth insight on a wide range of issues including local and regional concerns as well as relevant state and federal issues. During the school year, listeners can rely on Chris to provide the latest school delay and closing information, which help hundreds of parents to arrange their busy schedules. His listeners know they can tune in to hear interesting interviews and compelling guests every day. Chris also writes a syndicated morning show preparation report which is published monthly.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Twentieth anniversary of Christopher Oaks and his radio show Good Mornings with Chris Oaks. It is my great pleasure to recognize this outstanding achievement, and I thank Chris for his service to our community. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I wish Chris the best in all his future endeavors.